

# THE PULSE

OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL — CORNELL MEDICAL CENTER, NEW YORK and WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

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# THE PULSE

of the employees of

THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL-  
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New York City 21

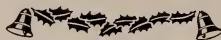
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Christmastime, no matter what our creed, is a time of universal hope when the spirit of giving is uppermost in our minds. Four years ago we pointed out in this column that those of us working in this Center can boast a priceless privilege: to give of ourselves and our work to the betterment of mankind.

Regardless of our individual jobs and responsibilities we all contribute to the fulfillment of the primary objective of this Center: the curing of the sick, the injured and those depressed in mind and spirit. In support of this objective we participate actively in the education of doctors and of specialists in many fields of activity related to medicine and in the advancement of knowledge through research.

This broad program contributes to the health and happiness of millions of human beings all over the world. Doctors, nurses, and the many medically-related specialists trained here carry the message of good patient care and current advances in medical and related technologies to the far corners of the globe.

No matter what our job in this large organization we can each of us take pride and satisfaction in having participated in this gift to mankind, a gift which will make this and all Christmases to come happier, and the New Year more promising, for millions of our fellow-men.

A heartfelt Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

*Henry Z. Press* M.D.

## Return Trip

When I saw the giant Silver C54 on the field at Mexico City airport on November 16th, waiting to take me back to NYH, all I could say was: "Is this for me?"

And then I thought what other country except the United States would care so much for an individual to send a plane that could accommodate 30 persons for just one person. The flight was sponsored by The National Foundation For Infan-

tile Paralysis with the cooperation of the Military Air Transport Service.

I brought back with me regards for several staff members of our Center. Dr. Fernando Lopez Clares, polio specialist in Mexico, wished to be remembered to Dr. Philip Stimson, who had taken him on a tour of the Center, when he last visited New York.

Enroute home the plane stopped at Kelly Field, San Antonio, and Col. Snyder, Chief of the Medical Division of MATS, came aboard to send his regards to Dr. David P. Barr, his former teacher, and Dr. E. Luckey.

I was very fortunate to have spent the acute stages of my illness in the American-British Cowdrey Hospital which has an excellent polio department.

I want you all to know how your cards and messages by the hundreds helped to keep up my morale when I was so far away from home. Many of you have sent contributions to the Polio Foundation in my name and this is the highest compliment paid me now that I am back in home territory. Although I had taken my first footsteps "by sea" in the therapy pool in Mexico, I took my first steps "on land" in our 18th floor Gym, December third.

At the rate our therapists are working on me I am apt to come out with stronger muscles than ever before.

RHETA GLUCK

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## To Keep You Straight On '54 Dates

In case you haven't bought any yet, there's still time to order your New York Hospital desk calendars which are being sold by the Student Organization of the School of Nursing. Proceeds from the sale of the calendars will go into the Student Organization Fund.

Resembling the art calendars familiar to all book store browsers, the 1954 calendar contains photographs of familiar places and faces, has ample space for posting engagements and writing notes and is bound with plastic rings. The price: \$1.25. You can buy yours at the sales booths set up by the students near the dining rooms.

Now is the time to laugh and be jolly,  
Now is the time for sleighbells and Holly,  
Trim all your medicine bottles and pills,  
Forget all your troubles, forget all your  
ills,

Now is the time to sing carols, be happy,  
Santa is coming, he's making it snappy,  
He's bringing good health and a bushel  
of cheer

and the best Christmas wishes

—From the Pulse staff here.

# The Spell of Christmas

Christmas day in The New York Hospital has its own special aura. . . . the warm glow that surrounds the patients and attending staff seeming to dispel the disappointment of not being home. Though it is Christmas, the day has a way of following the same pattern, for new life comes into being, and illness strikes regardless of the day. There are usually fewer patients, for all those who were able to return home were discharged before the holiday. And those who can, wait 'til after the holiday to be admitted as patients. But accidents happen, emergencies arise, and the Hospital must operate on Christmas, just as on any other day.

December 24th slips quietly out and December 25th enters just as silently. As the first gray dawn of Christmas morning lights up the halls, the voices of our student nurses can be heard softly singing the old Yuletide favorites.



## ESPECIALLY FOR YOU

Sleeping corridors take on life as patients awaken to cheery holiday greetings from the nurses and doctors on their early morning rounds.

Excitement and anticipation prevail throughout our enormous household . . . at the main Information desk, employees pile high their delivery carts with gaily wrapped Christmas presents and flowers for patients throughout the Hospital — the switchboard, busy since early morning with calls from relatives and friends giving heartfelt greetings to our patients — and, as in every household, there is a hustle of activity in the kitchen as Christmas dinner is prepared with all the traditional fixin's — the patients trays making a colorful picture, bedecked in holiday cloths, napkins and favors.

Talented members of the staff and patients all contribute to the joyful mood of the Hospital's holiday look by clever

window and door artistry . . . some holy, scenic, whimsical or just plain Christmasy.

Among the many gaily colored windows and glass partitions, christmas trees and gold and silver cardboard angels, our tiny patients fondle their shiny new toys and tinselly packages as they chatter excitedly to their parents about the visit from Santa Claus who never overlooks a single little boy or girl.

Even the cribs in the nursery, where the infants sleep blissfully unaware of the Day, have a Yuletide look, with the name tags, of all the babies, wearing bells and red ribbon bows.

The spell of Christmas Day . . . alike, yet unlike other Hospital days.

*Note: All decorations throughout the Hospital comply with the Fire Laws of the City of New York which prohibit the use of live greens in the Hospital.*



CAROL SINGERS — XMAS MORNING

## Service Award Dinner 1953

The beautifully decorated dining room of the Nurses' Residence was filled to capacity when more than 230 persons attended the seventh annual service Anniversary Dinner there, December 1, under the sponsorship of the Joint Administrative Board of The Society of the New York Hospital and Cornell University.

The group of sixty men and women honored, included doctors, nurses and others working in various phases of patient care, research, teaching, maintenance and business management at the center. The awards of gold emblems to the 18 who served the Center for 25 years and silver emblems to the 42 who completed 15 years of service, were made by Dr. Joseph C. Hinsey, Director of The New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. Including this year's group, a total of some 660 staff members have been honored for long service to the Medical Center since the dinners were inaugurated six years ago.

Speakers included Deane W. Malott, President of Cornell University and Hamilton Hadley, President of The Society of the New York Hospital.



### 25 YEAR GROUP

Twenty-five year award winners smile happily as they take applause after the presentation ceremony. Dr. Norman Plummer, who responded for the group, is the last one on the right, 2nd row.

### 15 YEAR GROUP

Fifteen years down and ten to go for a gold pin, this group comprises most of the 42 who received silver awards at the Anniversary Service Dinner.



The response for the group being honored was made by Dr. Norman Plummer, Assistant Attending Physician at The New York Hospital and Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at Cornell University Medical College, who received his 25-year award.

Dr. Plummer, in his remarks stressed the importance of the Anniversary Dinners in relation to the recognition given to the people of this great Center, who work in it, for it, and are a part of it.

"Too often in this age of technology, we think of a hospital, or a business or a government, in terms of the buildings, geographic locations or facilities, while what is most significant and should come first to our minds is the importance of people — the builders, past and present. . . . We make up this hospital, and it takes a good many years to become a part of it and, all of us being honored here tonight realize what this institution does for us and what it means to us."

Reminiscing about his student days at Cornell Medical College, Dr. Plummer paid tribute to Drs. Edwards, L'Esperance, Kahn, Eggleston, Gold, DuBois, Barr, Cecil, Richards, and others for their inspiring leadership and who were among those celebrating their anniversaries of long service to the Center.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Dr. Papanicolaou is Honored by King Paul of Greece

Dr. George N. Papanicolaou, emeritus professor of clinical anatomy in the Medical College, and director of research, Papanicolaou Cytology Laboratory, was presented with the Cross of Grand Commander of the Royal Order of Phoenix, one of the highest decorations bestowed by the King of Greece, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to research related to cancer.

The Cross of Grand Commander was presented to Dr. Papanicolaou by King Paul of Greece, in a personal meeting at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on December 3rd.

Dr. Papanicolaou had devised a test for detecting cancer at a very early stage, even before the appearance of any physical symptoms. The test consists of the microscopic study of smears prepared from various body fluids. Long ago he found that there was a constant exfoliation or "sloughing off" of cells into these natural fluids, and in cases of cancer, malignant cells could be recovered and detected in the smears thus permitting the diagnosis of this condition. His observations have led to the development and widespread use of exfoliative cytology in the diagnosis of cancer.

A member of the Medical College faculty since 1914, Dr. Papanicolaou was born in Greece, earned a medical degree at the University of Athens, and later a Ph.D. from the University of Munich. After service in the Medical Corps of the Greek Army during the Balkan War of 1912-1913, he came to the U.S. in order to continue his work in biological and medical research.

## 4th Set of Twins Receive Student Caps

Wearing their "blue plaid" uniforms for the very first time, the 78 Freshman members of the School of Nursing, Class of 1956, were "capped" in a traditional ceremony on Thursday, November 12th in the Student Lounge of the Nurses Residence. Each student received her cap

(Continued on page 6)



The Cross of Grand Commander of the Royal Order of Phoenix

## An Appeal For Blood

On several occasions unavoidable shortages of blood have endangered the lives of patients and have delayed necessary operations. That is why the Hospital is asking all who can to give blood at this time. Particularly critical at present is the need of RH negative blood, although there is a constant demand for all types. You will receive \$15 a pint if your blood contains the rare RH negative factor, \$5 if your blood is the more usual type.

Blood Bank physicians will not allow you to donate unless they find you in good health. Giving is easy, painless and takes less than an hour of your free time. The Blood Bank located in F-531, is open daily from 1 to 9 P.M.

## The Shining Penny

During the past two years employees of the Hospital have kept the animals in our glass menagerie riding high on pedestals of shining paycheck pennies. Miss Elizabeth Larlee, the Hospital's payroll teller, is keeper of the glass menagerie, numbering some 47 assorted animals, and custodian of their individual perches.

For weeks now, discussions have been going on through the payroll window on what to buy the children this Christmas. And with that great Day just around the corner, Saint Nick's elves got busy and discovered that our little in-patients were dreaming about a big honest-to-goodness swing and a record player with lots and lots of records — then on to our little clinic patients who use the O.P.D. playroom, where black boards, colored chalk, paints and drawing paper went to the top of the list — new tables and chairs, puzzles and games came next. This large list was sent to Santa.

Saint Nick's elves did a good job . . . now they had the lists, but were there enough pennies — they went to the glass menagerie and started to count the pennies in each perch. Their faces glowed as they counted 10,000 pennies — on and on to 20,000 and the last shining penny was counted . . . with this \$200.00 Santa Claus was certain now to deliver all the presents on the lists along with the best Christmas wishes of all employees to our little patients.

## HINT TO X-MAS SHOPPERS

### Try Our Gift Shop

The gift shop is stocked to the roof with all manner of presents ranging in price from \$1 up. If you're stumped about that hard-to-buy present, the Gift Shop gals will be delighted to offer suggestions. Take a look at the cards and holiday wrapping supplies, too.

Another nice note, too, in this season of giving is the fact that your purchases benefit the Social Service Department of the Hospital.

## CAPPING CEREMONY

(continued from page 5)

from either Miss Dunbar, Dean of the School or Miss Lyons, Associate Dean, and then had her cap pinned on by two Student Organization officers.

Henry S. Sturgis, Vice-President for Finance of the Board of Governors of the Society, addressed the new students and their families. Speaking about their choice of the Nursing Profession, Mr. Sturgis said, "The fact that you *want* to do this is more important than I can tell you, for this obvious desire to help others will communicate itself to your future patients, will help them, and will lead you to a high standard of patient care."

Among the 78 newly capped nursing students were the fourth set of twins in the School's 76-year history, Marjorie and Marlene Bruns of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. The first set of twins in the

School's history were the now famous Sutcliffe sisters. Class of 1880. Irene Sutcliffe founded a new school, the Long Island College School of Nursing, and then returned to become Principal of "The New York Training School for Nurses" as it was then called, while her sister Ida became head of the Long Island school.

Both of the second set of twins, the Halsted, Elizabeth and Katharine, Class of 1935 have remained in New York City — Elizabeth as Assistant Director of Nursing at the Flower Fifth Avenue Hospital and Katharine as Assistant Director of Nurses at the Hospital for Special Surgery.

In September the third set of twins, Joan and Judith Holland were graduated. Joan has been with the Private Patient Nursing Service of The New York Hospital since September and Judith, now Mrs. Philip N. Trowbridge, has joined her husband, an Air Force Lieutenant, in Texas.



Photographer Bob Noble New York Herald Tribune

## The Melody Lingers On . . .

The Cornell University Glee Club from Ithaca, New York, initiated the season's holiday whirl of social events at the Medical Center on Friday, November 27. Coming from the exciting Thanksgiving Day football game with the University of Pennsylvania and an evening concert in Philadelphia, the group arrived at the campus, fifty-five strong, around four in the afternoon.

They presented their first concert on the campus (and their first since 1948 in New York City) at five o'clock. This was a one-hour concert for the personnel of the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. Following the afternoon concert, the Glee Club members joined the nursing students for dinner in the Nurses Residence Dining Room.

At 8:30 P.M., the Glee Club presented a subscription concert sponsored by the newly-formed Cornell Alumni Association of New York City. This concert was given in the Nurses Residence Auditorium and brought to our campus, alumni, their guests and friends, from New York City and its environs.

The evening concert was followed by a reception in the Residence lounges. Receiving the guests were members of the nursing and nutrition staffs and students of the school of nursing. While everyone was enjoying refreshments, the floor of the auditorium was cleared of chairs for a dance sponsored by the Student Organization of the School of Nursing.

Members of the concert committee were: Richard H. Wels, General Chairman. Dr. William A. Barnes, Muriel R. Carbery, Henry Untermeyer, Vice Chairman. Other committee members were William D. Bleier, Allen L. Boorstein, Louis J. Daukas, Vincent T. Finan, Victoria Frederick, Joseph Granett, Arnold G. Landres, Laurance W. Lilienthal, Ann McKeown, Robert Nagler, Lucille Ringen, John Riviere, Joel E. Sammet, Laura L. Simms and Haig K. Shiroyan, Secretary.

## CAPPING DAY AT THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

Virginia M. Dunbar, dean of the School of Nursing, presiding at ceremonies at which seventy-eight student nurses were capped. The girls, from fifteen states, now begin training that will make them full-fledged nurses in three years.

# HOSPI=TALES

**On the Go:** Louise Stephenson, Director of the Nutrition Department, participated in a panel on Interrelationships Affecting Dietary Service at the Institute on Hospital Dietary Administration held at the Park Sheraton Hotel . . . *Jane M. Haber*, Serologist to the Blood Bank, gave a paper on Indirect Coombs Compatibilities before the American Society of Medical Technologists and the Massachusetts Branch of the American Society of Medical Technologists. . . . *Helen Dieschbourg* and *Edna Rutherford* Record Department, attended the Institute for Medical Record Librarians on Nomenclature. The Institute, sponsored by the United Hospital Fund, and the Greater New York Association of Medical Record Librarians was held early this month. *Helen B. Lincoln*, Record Librarian, was a member of the Problem Clinic Panel on December 8th at the Institute for Admitting Offices sponsored by the United Hospital Fund, The Greater New York Hospital Association, and the Hospital Admitting Offices Association of Greater New York.

*Thirza Hills*, *Laura Simms*, *Florence Tritt*, *Lee Saffioti*, *Anna Gillespie*, *Mary Louise Millar* '54 and *Carol Noll* '55 attended the 1953 State Nurses' Convention, of the New York State Nurses' Association, the New York State League for Nursing, and the New York State Student Nurses' Association held in October, at the Hotel Statler in Buffalo, New York.

**Hellos and Goodbyes:** *Susan Foreman* has joined the Nutrition Staff, replacing *Martha Manker* who has taken a new position in Columbus, Ohio. . . . *Margaret MacKay* has assumed her duties as Dietitian on H3. . . . *Teresa Nodalski Hofman* has left to join her husband in Germany and we welcome as her successor in the Formula Room

*Denise Cutler Kimball*. . . *Helen Benson*, Surgical Research Dietitian, is a very welcome new arrival from Fairchild, Wisconsin. . . . *Philip Palese* has been appointed an Administrative Assistant and *Frank Bossong* has taken over the job of Office Manager in Payne-Whitney. . . . *Clara Tierney*, who has been a member of the Record Department staff since 1943 and Assistant Su-

pervisor of evening file clerks since 1947, resigned and will take up residence in upstate, New York. At a farewell party held in her honor she received a watch from her staff as well as a silver bon-bon dish from the day staff. She will be greatly missed not only by her department, but also by members of the Hospital staff accustomed to her courteous service during the evening hours.



"Remember, now you promised — no television."

**Snared and Paired:** *Dolores Fabiano*, Central Laboratories, is the bride of John Meskunas, a medical student at New York University Medical College. . . . *Dr. Joseph Cusmano*, X-ray, was married in November. . . . *Dr. John O'Neill*, also of X-ray, married Ann Nolan in November, Dr. O'Neil has since joined the staff at Lawrence Hospital, Bronxville. . . . *Ada Cogan*, Ped. OPD, was married to Frank Graham, Jr, on October 31st. . . . Also an October bride, *Catherine Colubriale*, K3, was married to Richard Helberg. . . . It's only au revoir to *Ethel Schwartzbert*, F2, Research Dietitian, and *Betty Bush*, Main Kitchen Dietitian, who are both off on wedding trips and will return to their respective jobs. . . . *Betty Richmond* Nutrition Clinic Dietitian is engaged to Thomas Shreve who is associated with a management consulting firm in Cleveland, Ohio. . . . *Irene Carmody*, School of Nursing, Class of '55, became engaged on November 8th to John A. Schaible of West Orange, New Jersey. . . . *Marion Ahern* of X-ray is sporting a diamond from Herbert Dall.

If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.—THOREAU

**New Appointments:** *Elizabeth Brooks*, Department Head, Medical Nursing Service; *Eliose Cooke*, Assistant Supervisor, Gynecological Operating Rooms; *Mrs. Ena S. Fisher*, Evening Supervisor, Pediatric Nursing Service; *Mrs. Helen Gilkey*, Evening Supervisor, Surgical Nursing Service; *Dorothy Jackson*, Supervisor, Lying-In Nursing Service; *Patricia Jordan*, Assistant Supervisor, Lying-In Nursing Service; *Dorothy Knapp*, Supervisor, Auxiliary Staff; *Audrey McCluskey*, Coordinator in Charge of Instruction in Rehabilitation and the Care of Chronic Illness; *Lela Rose*, Supervisor, Private Patients Nurs-

ing Service; *Sue Sabia*, Assistant Department Head, Surgical Nursing Service; *Janet Sawyer*, Supervisor, Surgical Nursing Service.

**Hired:** It was a boy for *Dr. Charles Merton* and a girl for *Dr. Harry Bernett* — both doctors are in X-ray. . . . *Mrs. Anita McGann Beck* had a baby girl on October 10th and is now back as Surgical Clinic Aide.

Pleasant memories must be arranged for in advance.

**From Our Country Cousins:** *Mrs. Laura Agor*, whose picture appeared in the last issue of the PULSE among the employees honored for her years of service, retired on October first. For twenty years *Mrs. Agor*, working in the linen room at her tasks of sewing and mending was loved and respected by her co-workers. Their affectionate good wishes go with her. . . . *Charles Vaithevich*, a faithful and friendly employee in the Housekeeping Department died suddenly on November 4th. The sympathy of the patients and his fellow workers is extended to his family. . . . *Mrs. Ellen Carlin* of the Housekeeping staff is among our most enthusiastic travelers. Her airborne vacation trip took her on three different airlines as she visited friends and relatives in Louisville, Indianapolis and Chicago.

**Onward and Upward:** Our School of Nursing basket ball team won its first game of the season 44-39 in an exciting contest with the Long Island College Hospital School of Nursing on Tuesday, December 8th. High scorer for the evening was Ruth Kesner with 16 points to her credit, followed by Team Captain, Faith Hohloch with 15 points. Considering the fact that the team does not have its own basketball court and had only three practice sessions before playing the game, we feel congratulations are in order.

## SERVICE AWARD DINNER

(continued from page 4)

Helping to generate the feeling of warmth and camaraderie at the affair was entertainment furnished by an octet of members of the House Staff and medical students. In addition to their program of sentimental ballads and spirituals, the group circulated around the dining room leading the gathering in old-time favorites, concluding with the Cornell Alma Mater. Led by Dr. Thomas P. Almy, the octet included Drs. Donald Greaves, John Cole, Ralph Moore, Charles Harrison, Richard Dame, Carl Wielrum and Brent Parker.

Among those at the speakers table were four members of the staff who have given over 40 years of service. They included Dr. Charles E. Farr, 50 years; Dr. Cary Eggleston, 45 years; Dr. Eugene F. DuBois, 43 years; and Dr. May G. Wilson 40 years.

A committee of 28 representing various departments planned the dinner and was in charge of reception and ushering.

Additional copies of the dinner program-Menu are available for the asking in Mr. Payson's office G-111.

## TO A SNOWFLAKE

I walked abroad in a snowy day:  
I ask'd the soft snow with me to play:

She play'd and she melted in all  
her prime,

And the winter call'd it a dreadful crime.

WILLIAM BLAKE

*If It's News*

Send It To

THE PULSE

Room G-130B Ext. 7430